



Boston Bulletin

citywide news • street by street

VOLUME 13 NUMBER 17

APRIL 25, 2019

FREE

ACA planning candidates forum, talks Boston Calling and dog park



Allston and Brighton are lacking a dog park and resident Chris Arena thinks he might have a possible location.

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Allston Civic Association (ACA) met on Wednesday, April 17 to discuss several upcoming issues in the neighborhood.

The first was the reaction to District 9 City Councilor Mark Ciommo's announcement to not run again for his seat. ACA Chair Anthony D'Isidoro said they are currently planning for candidate forums.

PHOTO BY JEFF SULLIVAN
"I think we have a pretty good showing of perspective candidates here," he said during the meeting, pointing to several members like Craig Cashman and Brandon Bowser who have thrown their hats in the ring. "There's going to be a number of attempts in the community to get the candidates together, and whether that takes the shape of a discussion event or a meet and greet we'll said.

Allston Civic Assn
Continued on page 13

Shattuck Hospital planning process postponed



The Shattuck Hospital site and its relation to Franklin Park. Jewish War Veterans Drive is Boston Parks Department jurisdiction.

Richard Heath
Staff Reporter

The Executive Office of Health and Human Services—after over a year of community meetings about the Shattuck Hospital—is apparently chang-

ing horses in the middle of the stream.

It abruptly postponed the long-scheduled April 30 Shattuck Campus Planning and Community meeting and re-

Shattuck Hospital
Continued on page 11

Rain doesn't stop annual Brighton Easter Egg Hunt



According to Brighton Main Streets, you can't cancel Easter, and so the 36th annual Brighton Community Easter Egg Hunt went off without a hitch at the Sisters of St. Joseph Church on Saturday. Every year, hundreds of children ages 2-10 gather in Brighton to scoop up Easter eggs. This tradition was started over 50 years ago by the McCarthy family, and today Steve McCarthy and his daughter Molly work with Brighton Main Streets to continue this family friendly event.

COURTESY PHOTO



HP Library Flooding a concern

Ricardo Guillaume
Staff Reporter

Residents braved a down-pour Monday night to attend an Earth Day celebration at the Hyde Park Branch of the Boston Public Library (BPL), but there was inclement weather inside as well. Thomas M. Menino Hall on the ground level was the original setting for the event but that room succumbed to 25 inches of water that leaked onto the floor.

In the closet of Menino Hall a half-full trash bucket contained a steady drip from the exposed ceiling pipe. Adjacent to the hall, a couple hundred books were in danger of getting wet in a storage closet. Because of the leak, the Earth Day event was moved to Bill Weld Hall on the second floor.

David Joseph Vieira has been president of the board of the Friends of the Hyde Park library for four years and was formerly president of the City-Wide Friends of the



While there was no reported damage to books, the leaks in the library are growing and residents say this isn't the first instance.

PHOTO BY RICARDO GUILLAUME

Hyde Park library for 14 years. He said that this has been an ongoing issue.

"I can't count how many times (I've sent a complaint)," Vieira said. "(Menino Hall) was designed to be the public meeting space for the library, not upstairs in Weld Hall. And while we have the flexibility to use Weld Hall, (Menino Hall) is where tonight's pro-

gram should be and we cannot bring the public into a room that's in this condition."

To resolve the issue, Vieira said he has been in constant contact with BPL officials including President David Leonard, Director of Capital Projects, Eamon Shelton and Director of

Library Flooding
Continued on page 13

Hyde Park resident announces her candidacy to become the next Boston City Councilor for District 5

30 years old Cecily Graham, a resident of Hyde Park announced her candidacy to become the next Boston City Councilor for District 5, which includes the neighborhoods Hyde Park, Mattapan and Roslindale.

Cecily is a first generation American, born of Haitian and Jamaican parents and Cecily is currently working as a school teacher and has been actively involved in many political campaigns. Cecily Graham, earned a degree from College of Humanities and Fine Arts with a major in African Diaspora Studies and a minor in Women's Studies at

the University of Amherst. She is also one year away from completing her Master's degree with a focus in Public Administration.

Her previous experiences include: community organizing with the Massachusetts Affordable Housing Alliance to rally support to the Community Preservation Act in 2016, organizing with WGBH to save PBS, and interned with former City Councilor At-Large Ayanna Pressley, Cecily is ready to bring a fresh voice for District 5 to the Council.

"As a community advocate, I've seen so much injus-

tice and I want to fight for us [residents of District 5] and keep our district as beautiful as it's always been while exploring new opportunities that will improve the lives of many and help families thrive," Cecily stated. "I'm taking a stand because it's necessary that we fight against what divides the communities racially, socially and economically."

Cecily Graham is a leader who is connected to the community, concerned about the unaddressed community needs, and is committed to improvement and empowerment. She will hold her campaign kick-off on Saturday, April 20th from 10-1 at ZaZ Restaurant in Hyde Park. For further information or to volunteer with the campaign, please contact Cecily Graham at (857)-312-3263 or via email at cecilyfordistrict5@gmail.com.

Police apprehend Hyde Park woman in connection to cemetery vandalism



Deborah Gideon

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

Last week, on April 18 at around 4:45 p.m., the Boston Police Department (BPD) reported that officers assigned to the District E-18 arrested a Hyde Park woman in connection to a series of vandalisms at the Mount Hope Cemetery.

According to the BPD, Deborah Gideon, 53, of Hyde Park has been arrested and charged with attempting to commit a crime to wit: vandalism of a gravestone and malicious destruction of property over \$1,200. Gideon was later charged with six other counts of vandalism, including damage to the Boston Police Relief Association Memorial located at the Mount Hope Cemetery. The BPD has not stated whether they are charging Gideon with other instances of vandalism in the neighborhood.

According to police, District E-18 officers observed Gideon in the area of 19 Millstone St., and apparently saw her toss what appeared to be red powder in the air and into the street. They followed her to the area of the Mount Hope Cemetery where they observed her exit her motor vehicle, approach some headstones and make a tossing motion with her hand.

After Gideon entered her motor vehicle and continued traveling, officers state they initiated a traffic stop. Officers state they observed a spray bottle in the front passenger side of her vehicle, a gallon of "reddish liquid," containers of various colored salts, powdered juice mixes and olive oil.

BPD has not connected Gideon with a spate of other vandalized churches and statues in Hyde Park and Dorchester respectively. According to police, on Monday, March 11, officers assigned to District E-18 responded to a radio call for vandalism in the area of 25 Maple St. around the Most Precious Blood Church. Officers stated on arrival they spoke to a witness who state he observed an unknown red substance on a statue on the church's property. The witness also stated that he observed the same red substance on a bench in front of 90 West Milton St. in Hyde Park at Saint Anne's Church.

On Wednesday, March 13, District E-18 officers reported responding to a radio call at St. Anne's for vandalism. On arrival, officers stated they spoke to the same witness, who stated he found the same red substance on a statue in front of the church, similar to the incident at Most Precious Blood. The witness relayed a story he said was from another parishioner in a previously unreported incident in which a black female entered the Most Precious Blood Church during closing and reportedly attempted to spray an unknown substance on the statues inside the church. When confronted, the witness states, the unknown female said she was "just praying," before exiting the church and leaving the scene in a white sedan.

On Wednesday, April 10, officers assigned to BPD District C-11 in Dorchester responded to a radio call for vandalism at 2223 Dorchester Ave. at the site of St. Gregory's Church. The caller stated that an unknown individual had defaced a statue on the church's property, covering the statue in an unknown red substance. The caller stated this was the fourth incident in which the statue had been vandalized in the past month with the same substance.

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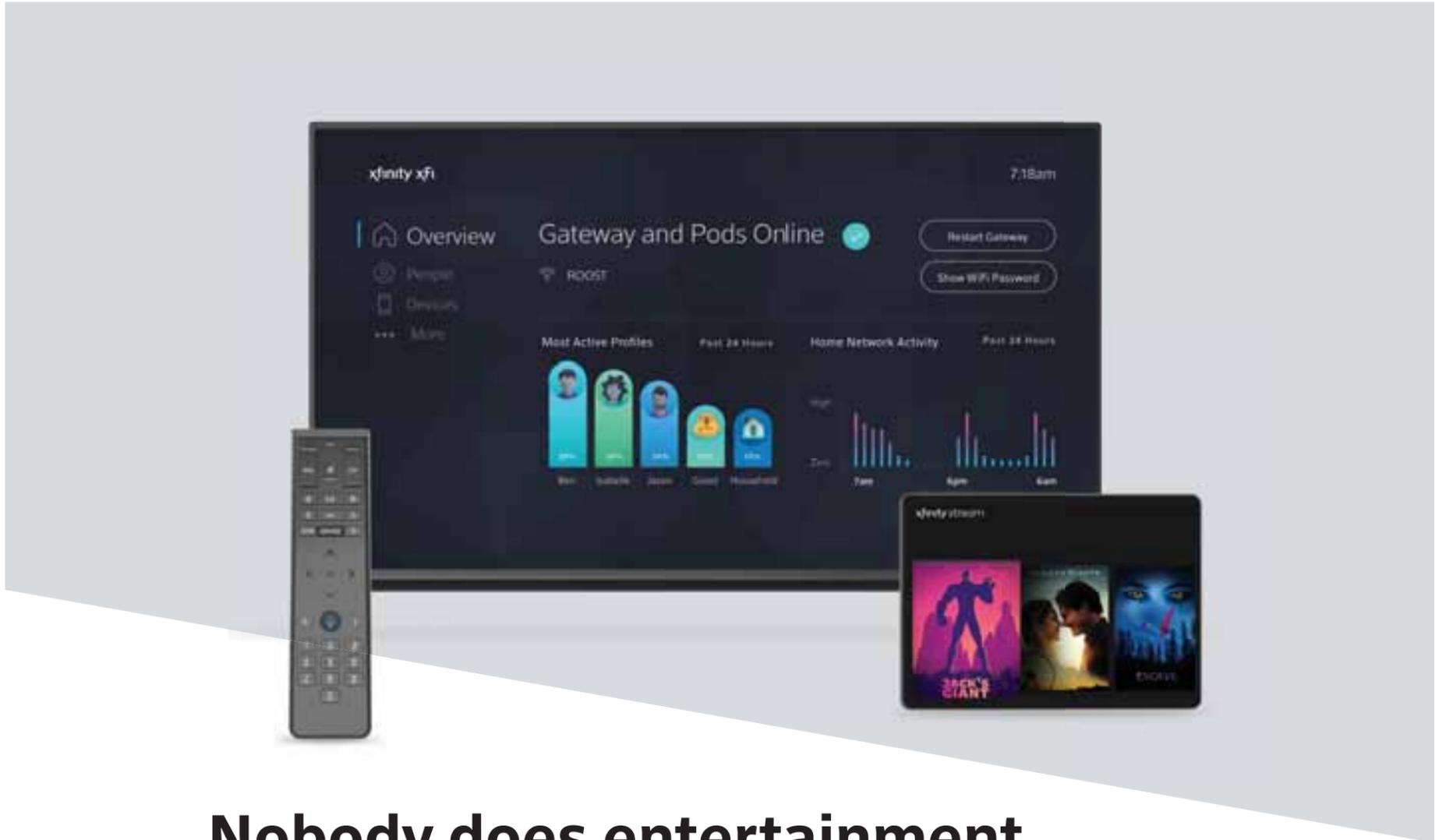
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Widow Asks About Survivor Benefits

Dear Rusty: My husband passed away 7 years ago at the age of 64, at which time he was receiving SS Disability. I was 58 at the time he passed and could not apply for his Social Security. I was still working but let SS know he was deceased, so his check was no longer deposited. I am now 65 and my age to reach full benefits without penalty is 66. I plan to work three more years before applying for Social Security. My question is: Can I apply for my deceased husband's SS benefits now and not my own without any penalties? And if so, what is the process? Thank you for your time and the information and resources you provide.

Signed: Widowed Wife

Dear Widowed: Yes, as a widow you have the choice of claiming either your survivor's benefit or your own benefit but claiming either before your full retirement age will reduce it. If you claim your survivor's benefit before you reach age 66 it will be somewhat reduced from 100% of what your husband was receiving when he passed. Since you're now 65, the reduction won't be too severe (about 0.4% for each month before your full retirement age of 66). Your own benefit would be reduced by about 0.69% for each month before your full retirement age.

I suggest you evaluate which of your future benefits will be greater – the survivor benefit at maximum or your own benefit at maximum. Your survivor benefit reaches maximum at your full retirement age of 66, but your own SS benefit can continue to grow until age 70 when it would be 32% more than it would be at age 66. You may want to set a goal to claim in such a way that you can get the highest benefit for the rest of your life. If you know what your own benefit will be at your full retirement age, add

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Russell Gloor
AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

32% to that, and compare that number to the benefit your husband was receiving at his death. If your own at age 70 is more than he was receiving, then it would be wise to take the survivor benefit first and let your own grow by 8% per year until 70 and then switch from the survivor benefit to your own. If your survivor benefit at your FRA will be greater than your own at age 70, then it would be wise to let the survivor benefit grow to maximum at your full retirement age and claim it then.

In any case, to answer your question – yes, you can apply for your reduced benefits as a widow now or wait until you're 66 to get the full benefit, and the way to do that is to contact Social Security directly and request your benefit as your husband's widow. Survivor's benefit cannot be applied for online, so you should call Social Security (find your local office at www.ssa.gov/locator) and request an appointment to apply for survivor benefits. When you make your appointment, Social Security will advise you if they'll require any additional documentation. And if you wish to let your own benefit grow to age 70, then be sure to specify you are applying only for your survivor benefit, not your Social Security retirement benefit. Both survivor benefits and your own Social Security retirement benefit.

The demise of two classrooms

Usually in education when one hears the word “demise,” it usually precedes discussion of an entire school, possibly because of changes. But today the word is used in talking about two public school classrooms, perhaps 100 miles apart.

The first is taking place in a comfortable suburb of a big city. There a fifth-grade class is constantly on pins and needles because one of its students is, for want of a better word, uncontrollable, and not because of teacher inability to address the problem. Frequent class interruptions plus physical outbreaks, such as knocking over dozens of art projects, make it difficult for learning to occur. When the tantrum is full blown, the teacher and the rest of the students have to evacuate the classroom to enable the school psychologist and administrators to converse with him one-on-one. This is the school's policy: protect the rights of the misbehaving pupil while his peers wait out in the corridor for resolution.

Then there is a Boston Public Schools fourth grade where a couple of obstreperous students stand up on desks, drop F-bombs, and other such activities, thereby rendering learning v-e-r-y difficult. This is just a follow-up to their third-grade behavior. This is no reflection on the teacher; it's just the way things are in some classrooms, as suspensions from school are now viewed, sadly, with a jaundiced eye.

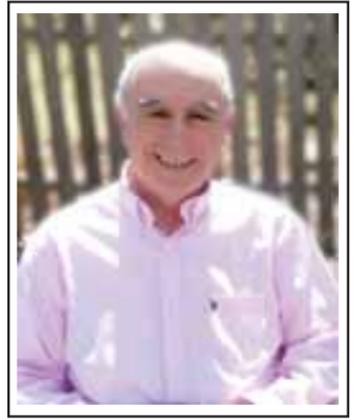
It is interesting to note that Massachusetts state education

officials are casting a nasty eye on Roxbury Preparatory School because of its suspension rate—21.1% versus the state average of 2.9%. Frequently, suspension is the only way to go, although some think that keeping troublemakers out of school for a day or two is jeopardizing their frequently precarious academic success. Admittedly, at least one of the suspensions enacted by Roxbury Prep seemed flimsy, but when dastardly deeds are done against classmates or teachers, serious consequences are due.

The bases of suspension should be spelled out in a handbook, with little, if no room, for subjectivity. Strong care should be taken to avoid having students placed near and ultimately cross such a threshold, but if so, then as the adage says, “If the shoe fits, . . .” Hopefully, the number of suspended left-handed students or those wearing glasses does not exceed the proportion of those within a school.

Detractors of that charter school will be quick to mention that 38% of the suspensions were levied against pupils with disabilities. Hmmm. Does this mean students in wheelchairs, on crutches, with impaired hearing? Probably not. It would not be surprising if disabilities in this case means behaviorally impaired, extremely hot-tempered.

State education officials always have a tender space in their heart for students with disabilities, and right that they should, in many but far from all



My Kind of Town/
Joe Galeota

circumstances. Because they are always ready to levy sanctions on a school with suspensions of students needing behavior modification (a type of disability), one Boston Public school in which I was privileged to teach had a way of circumventing the suspensions of volatile students with a special ed plan: “Don't come back to school until your mother comes up.” This way the voluminous amount of paperwork incurred by suspending such students—no matter how flagrant their hostile act was—was avoided. And, more importantly, the classmates were able to learn for a day or two without fear and without traumatic interruption.

If the purpose of schooling is to prepare one for life, then a student who threatens a teacher or a classmate has to learn that later on life, the threatening of a police officer or a judge has dire consequences.

Letters to the Editor

EXAM SCHOOLS MORE DIVERSE THAN REPORTED

To the Editor:

An April 11 Boston Bulletin story on education inequity in Boston schools asserts that Boston's three exam schools are not racially or culturally diverse. This widely reported misperception is not supported by the facts.

Of the 1787 students at Boston Latin Academy, no racial group makes up 30% of the school population. African-American and Asian students each represent 21% of the student body. Hispanics represent 25%. Whites represent 29%, and many of them are immi-

grants or children of immigrants from non-English speaking countries in Eastern Europe and the Middle East, living in immigrant gateway neighborhoods such as East Boston, Dorchester and Allston. The percentage of students at Latin Academy for whom English is not their first language is 42%.

As a member of the Parents Committee of the Friends of Boston Latin Academy, I recently hand addressed invitations to our spring fundraiser to all of the 300 or so first-year families at Latin Academy. Only a handful of invitations went to addresses in West Roxbury or South Boston. The vast majority went to addresses

in Dorchester and Roxbury. Latin Academy may be the most broadly and evenly diverse school in the district. Boston should celebrate the diverse enrollment we have achieved at Latin Academy that has been so elusive at non-exam schools.

Furthermore, of the 1535 students at another exam school, the John D. O'Bryant School for Math & Science, the largest percentage of students are African-Americans, who comprise 34% of the school's enrollment, a share higher than the percentage of African-Americans in the district overall, 31%. Hispanics at the O'Bryant School make up another third of the student body, 32%. Whites account for less than 11% of the student body even though whites represent approximately half of Boston's population. These statistics are published on the Massachusetts Department of Education's website.

Diversity is well established

Letters

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54th Regiment legacy continues



Members of the 54th Regiment came to the Mattapan Library, along with members of the Buffalo Soldiers reenactors, to teach residents the history of African Americans in the U.S. Armed Forces.

PHOTO BY JEFF SULLIVAN

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The 54th Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteer Company A came to the Mattapan Library on Saturday, April 13, to teach about 20 residents how the 54th was able to drive a path forward for African Americans in the U.S. Armed Forces.

"I've seen this army become what it should have been many many years ago,"

said Buffalo Soldiers Heritage founder Napoleon DePina. "Europeans said a man of color could not lead or be a soldier. The 54th and all the people in the Civil War proved them wrong. I've lived to see a four-star general, I've lived to see the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff lead the biggest Army in the world, a man of color. At the same time, when that general was a made a colonel, the newspapers asked

him if he wanted to be known as the 'Colored Colonel.' He said, 'well don't stop calling me colored because I am.' That man was Colin Powell."

DePina's organization joined the 54th for the two-hour talk, one of a half dozen the regiment is holding this spring in conjunction with the Hyde Park Main Streets (HPMS) through a grant HPMS Executive Director

54th Regiment

Continued on page 10

Mayor Walsh Announces 2019 BCYF Summer Grants Now Available

Mayor Martin J. Walsh and Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF) have announced the release of the 2019 BCYF Summer Grants RFP, inviting nonprofit youth-serving groups to apply for a grant of up to \$5,000 to support fun, safe, enriching youth programming this summer. These grants will increase both the number and variety of programs serving youth and will ensure that youth across the City have access to activities and opportunities this summer.

The grants will support summer programs in Boston neighborhoods. Ages to must range from 6-18 and may include young adults up to age 21. Programs must operate between July 8 and August 31. Last year, of the 58 programs that were awarded funding, 60% were art-based, educational or community and civic engagement opportunities and the remaining 40% had a sports, recreation, fitness or health-related focus. Over 80% of grantees provided specialized programs that incorporated educational components to youth about substance abuse, provided a therapeutic approach to accommodate youth impacted by trauma and provided an opportunity for meaningful youth summer employment.

"This grant is so meaningful to Learn 2 Teach, Teach 2 Learn." said Dr. Susan Klimczak, Education Organizer at Learn 2 Teach, Teach 2 Learn. "The funds help us to provide STEAM activities that require special and more expensive components. This year, we encountered a price increase in some of the supplies we need to offer our STEAM activities. The increase would have put popular activities like our Solar Bobble Activity out of the reach of L2TT2L, which provides all our STEAM camps free of charge to the children and community organizations we serve. Thanks to the support from BCYF through the BCYF Summer Grant, we were able to offer this popular activity without interruption."

The deadline to apply is 5 p.m. on Friday, May 3. For more information including the RFP, please visit Boston.Gov/BCYF-Summer-Grant.

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Mosquito Spraying to begin this month

Aerial spraying will take place in select neighborhoods in Hyde Park and West Roxbury

April 19, 2019 - The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) would like to advise residents and community members in Hyde Park and West Roxbury of upcoming sprayings to help control mosquito populations in selected neighborhood areas. BPHC partners with the Suffolk County Mosquito Control Project (SCMCP) to protect Boston residents from mosquito-borne disease transmission. SCMCP will be conducting a helicopter application of the biological larvicide, Bti, to control mosquito larvae over large wetlands.

* Wetlands currently being evaluated include the Fowl Meadow area of Hyde Park, the Hancock Woods area near VFW Parkway and Corey Street and wetlands near Millennium Park in West Roxbury.

* * The application will be conducted between April 22 and April 26.

* * The larvicide will be applied in a granular formulation by a helicopter flying low directly over the wetlands. Residents do not need to take any special precau-



West Roxbury and Hyde Park will be sprayed to reduce populations of mosquitos throughout the week.

COURTESY PHOTO

tions for this application.

Mosquito species have different breeding habits, but most want to lay their eggs near water – usually in vegetation or in still water. To help prevent mosquitoes from breeding, BPHC advises residents to limit places around the home where standing water can collect. People should turn over unused flower pots, buckets, wheelbarrows and garbage cans; remove leaves and other debris that can clog gutters and trap water; dispose of or cover old tires; and cover swimming pools when not in use.

About Bti: The material to be applied, Bti (Bacillus

thuringiensis var. israelensis), is a natural bacterium found in soil. The EPA classifies Bti as a relatively non-toxic pesticide. Bti is considered a target selective and environmentally compatible pesticide that affects mosquito larvae and a few closely related aquatic insects in the fly family. Once applied Bti stays suspended in water for 24 to 48 hours and then biodegrades as it settles to the bottom.

The product name of the Bti is VectoBac GR (EPA Reg. #73049-486). For further information contact the Suffolk County Mosquito Control Project at 781-899-5730.

City of Boston's Outdoor Pools and Family Friendly Beach Open Saturday, June 22

Summer is coming and Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF) is pleased to announce that the City of Boston's two outdoor pools, the BCYF Clougherty Pool in Charlestown and the BCYF Mirabella Pool in the North End are opening for the season on Saturday, June 22. These pools, along with 16 pools open year round, are operated by BCYF, the City of Boston's largest youth and human service agency.

BCYF Clougherty Pool rates for the entire season: Adults (20 - 54): \$15; Youth and teens ages 12 - 19 Free; Adults (55 and older) and Active Military (with ID): Free. Children under age 8 must be accompanied by an adult in the water at all times. Memberships are available now at the BCYF Charlestown Community Center, 255 Medford Street, Charlestown or at the pool beginning June 22.

BCYF Mirabella rates for the entire season: Adults (20-61): \$20; Teens (13-19): \$10; Youth and Seniors (ages 6-12, adults 62+): \$5; Youth under 6 and Active Military (with ID): Free. The rates are double for non-Boston residents. There are no day or guest passes. Memberships will be available beginning on May 13 at the BCYF Nazzaro Community Center, 30 North Bennet Street in the North End or at the pool beginning June 22. Money orders are the only accepted method of payment.

Also opening June 22 is the City's "Family Friendly Beach" at the BCYF Curley Community Center in South Boston. The beach will also be open seven days a week and offers families access to an enclosed stretch of beach on Boston Harbor, restrooms with changing tables, picnic tables with umbrellas, outdoor showers, beach game equipment, and wifi. Membership for the beach for the entire season is \$5 and are available June 1 at the "K" Street entrance of the center.

The outdoor pools and beach will remain open seven days a week until Labor Day. All locations will have experienced, certified lifeguards on duty. BCYF Curley facilities are accessible for people with disabilities and both outdoor pools are equipped with lifts from the deck into the water.

For programming information, the membership application, and hours of operation, visit Boston.Gov/BCYF.

Jason Roberts Challenger League

25th Season — 2019

Player Information

- ◆ Participants learn not only the fundamentals of baseball, but how it feels to be just like other children – pulling together as a team, being cheered & earning awards for their achievements.
- ◆ A special group of children, who shun the description "special," can now enjoy all the benefits that organized baseball has to offer.

Buddy Information

- ◆ As a Buddy, you agree to commit yourself to 1¼ hours, twice a week from 5:45 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ You will obtain Community Service hours and build rewarding friendships.
- ◆ Any child age 12 and older may be a buddy. Adults 18 and older must sign a CORI/SORI Form.
- ◆ There are Two (2) teams:
Red Sox – Ages 7 and older
Athletics – Ages 7 and older
- ◆ The Red Sox & Athletics play Tuesdays & Thursdays



Opening Day – Bring your family & friends!

Opening Day Ceremonies for the 25th Season will be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2019 beginning at 5:45 p.m. We ask all Buddys to be present at 5:30 p.m.

There will be a Game on Opening Day!

All games are played from 5:45 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

The Spring Season ends on Thursday, June 27th.

Registration fee for the 2019 Season is \$90.00 per family, which includes Spring & Summer play and two Banquet tickets.

Summer League begins on Wednesday, July 10th & ends on Wednesday, August 28th.
Summer registration: \$50.00 per player.

All Games are played at The Jason Roberts Challenger League Field located at the Ohrenberger School on West Boundary Road in West Roxbury.
Bathrooms and ample parking available.

To become a **Buddy** or a **Player**, call **Bill Hubbard** at **617-364-9249**, email us:

JulieHubbard712@aol.com or visit our website:

www.jasonrobertschallengerleague.com



THE MOST FUNDAMENTAL GOAL OF THE JASON ROBERTS CHALLENGER LEAGUE IS TO GIVE EVERYONE A CHANCE TO PLAY, REGARDLESS OF THEIR LIMITATIONS.

Around the Neighborhood

CITY

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR BOSTON NEIGHBORHOOD BASKETBALL LEAGUE

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department has announced that registration is now open for the 50th annual season of Boston's favorite summer basketball league, the Boston Neighborhood Basketball League (BNBL), kicking off on Monday, July 8. BNBL is the oldest municipal basketball league in the country serving young men and women in three divisions each for boys and girls: 13 and under; 15 and under; and 18 and under. Encompassing recreation, sports, and community engagement, BNBL's real value is in helping make Boston happier and safer in the summer months by providing a physical outlet for youngsters throughout the city.

Over 1,500 players on 150 teams will participate in this year's league at 20 sites throughout the city. BNBL is played at Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF) community centers and selected city parks. The 2019 BNBL season ends with the championship games played in mid-August.

To register online for BNBL go to https://apm.activecommunities.com/cobparksandrecdepart/Activity_Search.

BNBL also offers a free Pee Wee Developmental Program for boys and girls ages 6 to 11 offered at various locations across the city in Dorchester, Mattapan, Roslindale, South Boston, West Roxbury, and Roxbury. This program teaches young players the basics of basketball in a fun and non-competitive setting. Registration for Pee Wee BNBL is done on-site at the Pee Wee locations.

For more information, please email Charlie Conners at Charles.Conners@boston.gov or call (617) 961-3093.

FREE SPRING ART WORKSHOP SERIES

The Power of our Stories – What Does Clay Have to Say? With teaching artist Wendy Ellertson on May 1 with optional field trip from 5 – 7 pm with light, healthy dinner at 5pm. Dinner and workshop provided FREE OF CHARGE by Jamaica Plain-based Families Creating Together at Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry, 10 Putnam St., Roxbury.

Join us for this FREE disability-inclusive series of art workshops for children ages 5-13 accompanied by an adult family member/guardian.

Create clay artwork to be fired in a kiln, then glaze it with bright colors and watch creatures and objects emerge from the clay...inspiring children to develop stories about them! Build backdrops out of mixed materials to help display and perform those stories. Presented in English, Spanish and American Sign Language upon request. Wheelchair accessible.

FCT is a program of Com-

munity Service Care/Tree of Life Coalition in Jamaica Plain. This is not a drop-in program. Please enroll if you can commit to at least three workshops. To register and for more information call 617-522-4832 or 617-372-3022 (cell, text, Espanol) or email familiescreating@gmail.com.

SPACE IS LIMITED so register today! Additional information at www.familiescreatingtogether.org.

ALLSTON / BRIGHTON

THE POLAR VORTEX ENSEMBLE

Polar Vortex is a 7 piece instrumental ensemble playing music ranging from classic swing to soul and R&B. Join us for an afternoon of lively and delightful sound. May 4 Saturday afternoon 2 pm. Brighton Library/ 40 Academy Hill Road/(617) 782-6032

This program is brought to you by Music Maker Studios directed by Bob Brenner. All are welcome.

BEGINNING INTERNET CLASS

Mystified by the net? Don't know how to surf? Help is available on a one on one basis to get you started. Call for an appointment and ask for Alan. Brighton Branch Library/ 40 Academy Hill Road/ (617) 782-6032

ESL CONVERSATION GROUPS

Two ESL conversation groups meet at the Brighton Library: One on Monday evening at 6:15 pm; The other on Tuesday afternoon at 1 pm. Come and practice your language

skills in an informal and friendly setting with other new English speakers. Brighton Branch Library/40 Academy Hill Road/(617) 782-6032.

JAMAIC PLAIN

GODDARD HOUSE HAPPINESS IS A CHOICE YOU MAKE: LESSONS FROM A YEAR AMONG THE OLD

Thursday, April 25th | 6:00 - 7:45 pm - Brookline Senior Center, 93 Winchester Street, Brookline, MA

What's the secret to living a fuller, more content life? For John Leland, best-selling author and award-winning reporter at the New York Times, the answer came from an unexpected place: from the lives of six people age 85 and up. He expected them to educate him in the hardships of old age. Instead, they taught him lessons of resilience, gratitude, purpose and perspective that apply to us all. The good news is that we can all learn from the wisdom and experience of older adults. View full event flyer >>

Refreshments will be served from 6-6:30 pm, followed by a talk with discussion & book sales from 6:30-7:45 pm. Please call 617-730-2770 to register.

OPENING MINDS THROUGH ART ARTISTS' RECEPTION & ART SALE

Saturday, April 27th | 3:00 - 4:30 pm - Goddard House Assisted Living, 165 Chestnut St, Brookline

Opening Minds through Art (OMA) is an intergenerational art program that is founded on the principle that people who are living with dementia are highly capable of creative expression. This exhibit will be on display in Gallery M at Goddard House from April 8th to May 6th. For more information, contact Patti Barrows at 617-731-8500 or pbarrows@goddardhouse.org. All are welcome!!

HYDE PARK

THE GREAT GRILLED CHEESE FESTIVAL

The Great Grilled Cheese Festival takes place at The Thomas M. Menino YMCA gymnasium in Hyde Park on Sunday May 19 from 11:30am-2pm. Enjoy "all you can eat" classic grilled cheese sandwiches, chips and dessert. There will be fun kid activities with Davey the Clown, raffles, live music by Luis Avila and Natalia Popovska, leader of song at St. Anne's Church, Hyde Park. Located at 1137 River Street, Hyde Park, MA 02136.

This foodie-family fundraiser benefits the Chefs Table Foundation, a 501(C) 3 non-profit organization that provides scholarships to veterans and youths in need who have a passion for the culinary arts.

Tickets: \$8 per child (12 years and younger). Babies under one-years old – complimentary admission. \$10 per adult

Thank you to our sponsors: YMCA, Commonwealth Bank, Tierney Realty Group and Carroll-Thomas Funeral. Tickets: <http://www.chefstablefoundation.org>

BOSTON WARD 18 TO ELECT DELEGATES TO DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION

Registered Democrats in Boston's Ward 18 will hold a caucus on Saturday, May 11, 2019 at 10:00am at the Hyde Park Municipal Building, 1179 River Street, Hyde Park, MA to elect delegates and alternates to the 2019 Massachusetts Democratic State Convention.

This year's state convention will be held September 14, 2019 at the MassMutual Center in Springfield, where thousands of Democrats from across the state will come together to discuss party business and celebrate our successes as we prepare for upcoming elections.

The caucus is open to all registered and pre-registered Democrats in Boston's Ward 18. Pre-registered Democrats who will be 16 by May 11, 2019 will be allowed to participate and run as a delegate or alternate. Boston's Ward 18 can elect 53 delegates and 8 alternates to the Convention.

Youth, minorities, people with disabilities, and LGBTQ individuals who are not elected as a delegate or alternate may apply to be an add-on delegate at the caucus or at www.massdems.org.

Those interested in getting involved with Boston's Ward 18 Democratic Town Committee should contact Rob Consalvo, Ward Committee Chair, ward18boston@gmail.com.

ARTISTS-AT-LARGE PRESENTS: AN OPEN MIC FEATURING VERONIQUE EPITER

In celebration of National Poetry Month we invite you to an evening of poetry Join us to listen to poet and mezzo-soprano read her original works and sing a few of her favorite songs Originally from France, she has called Boston her home for decades. She has performed

Deadline

The deadline for all press releases for The Bulletin is Friday.

Send to:

661 Washington St, Suite 202
Norwood, MA 02062.

Fax us at (617) 361-1933
or e-mail us at news@bulletinnewspapers.com



Ask The Doctor

Junior Damato began servicing vehicles in 1969. He owns a 10-bay auto repair service center in Hyde Park and an 8-bay center in Middleboro. Junior is an ASE-certified Master Technician, ASE-certified L-1 and ASE-certified Natural Gas.

To the Doctor: I have a 2013 Toyota RAV4 with 4WD, but I have never actually put it into the 4WD mode. Would it be safe to use it now, after six years of non-use? Or should I have it checked out by Toyota first?

From the Doctor: I would switch it into the 4WD mode without a trip to the dealer. If the 4WD system works, I would suggest having the drive line fluids changed using the factory Toyota fluid.

To the Doctor: I have a 2014 Nissan Altima. I'm just one of the thousands of Nissan owners with a faulty CVT manufactured by Jatco of which Nissan is the parent company. Nissan extended the warranty from 60,000 to 120,000 miles, but I've read that some owners are on their third transmission. My Altima's transmission vibrates at 2,000 RPMS. The dealer says that's normal. Why wasn't a recall ever issued for such a vital part of the vehicle's drive train?

From the Doctor: The early CVT transmissions had major failure rates – Nissan was not alone with this problem. Generally, manufacturers want to extend the warranty versus a recall because of the expense involved. Today's CVTs have been redesigned and are much better. With the older CVT transmissions, going from a dead stop to full acceleration, the engine would stay at the full RPM until the driver lifted up on the gas pedal. Under full acceleration, today's CVT transmissions shift similar to a regular automatic transmission. In fact, the new CVT transmissions can actually be manually shifted. Just a note: I suggest a transmission fluid change every two years with these troublesome CVTs and the use of Nissan fluid only.

Boston's own Junior Damato, "The Auto Doctor" has agreed to field auto repair questions from *Bulletin* and *Record* readers. Please forward your questions to news@bulletinnewspapers.com and we will do our best to get your questions answered.

Council talks improvements to homeless veterans programs

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Boston City Council Committee on City, Neighborhood Services, Veterans and Military Affairs last week held a hearing on the status of veterans experiencing homelessness and what the city is doing to combat the issue.

In January 2016, Boston Mayor Marty Walsh announced that the city had effectively ended chronic veteran homelessness through the implementation of an action plan started in June the previous year called Boston's Way Home. A chronically homeless person is defined by the Federal Government as someone with a disabling condition who has been homeless for at least 12 consecutive months or has had at least four periods of homelessness totaling at least 12 months in the previous three years.

As national reports see homelessness rates increasing, Boston has been seeing steady decreases. According to the most recent Homeless Census data from 2018 (January's 2019 census data has not yet been released), 1,779 individuals were using Boston's Emergency Shelter system, compared to 1,762 in 2017. Since the start of the program in 2016, Boston has housed 667 chronically homeless individuals and reduced the rate of

chronic homelessness in the city by 20 percent from 2016 to 2018, and by 46 percent from 2008 to 2018. Nine hundred and fifteen homeless veterans have also been found homes since that time.

According to Deputy Director of Supportive Housing Laila Bernstein, despite great strides in programming, veterans are still finding some roadblocks to housing in the city, even when applying for housing through the Section 8 Veterans Housing Voucher Program or the VA Supportive Housing (VASH) program.

"We are experiencing an extremely tight housing market and that means that even once veterans who are homeless might receive a housing voucher that they could use to rent in the private market, that housing search time can take a while and that means they remain homeless longer because the housing search is so difficult."

New England Center and Home for Veterans representative Meredith Christensen echoed this sentiment, saying that vouchers can take about 90 days to get leased with a home, and that's after they go through the same vetting process anyone else has to go through for voucher-based housing.

"They're kind of being compared to the market-rate population around," she said.

Bernstein also said the benefits of a Veteran Housing

Voucher can only be attained if the veteran is eligible for Veterans Administration Hospital benefits, meaning they needed to have an honorable discharge.

"More than half of the veterans experiencing homelessness in the City of Boston don't have that VA eligibility status, whether it be because of the type of discharge they had, the amount of time in service, the branch that they served in, if they served just in reserve," she said. "We've had to be creative about bringing forward other resources that mirror what VASH has to offer for people who are not going to be VASH eligible."

She said the programs rely on VASH or VA service eligibility, and her office has been trying to mirror those benefits specifically for veterans who are not eligible for those benefits. She said they receive 25 housing rental vouchers from the state towards this endeavor, and pair them up with support services for the veterans they service.

"We also look to the Housing Authority sometimes for units, we use other federal vouchers that come through the Department of Neighborhood Services (DND) to house homeless veterans who can't get access to a VASH voucher, and we apply for mainstream affordable housing for homeless veterans," she said. "We try every avenue to get everyone on the list housing. We

won't be able to get this done if we just rely on one resource."

Christensen and Former Vice President of External Affairs at Mass Housing Tom Lyons said another problem Boston is facing now deals with aging veterans, most of whom served in the Vietnam War. Christensen said that many are being priced out of their current housing units due to the skyrocketing rents and housing prices the city is experiencing.

"It is our aging population as well, I've seen a lot of my veterans who simply got priced out," he said. "A few of our seniors, that's one of the reasons they end up coming to the shelter, unfortunately."

Lyons said the lack of mental health services at the VA for veterans who came back from Vietnam made itself apparent when many of those veterans could not deal with post traumatic stress. They came home and turned to self medication.

"The VA wasn't prepared for the kinds of issues that the Vietnam Veterans were dealing with when they came home, he said. The notion of being in Vietnam on a Tuesday and being back home on a Thursday didn't exist in Korea or World War II... We didn't have a chance to download what we went through to whom-ever. It was all internalized, and you got home, you put your seat bag away and you tried to move

on with your life, and if you didn't have a family or community who could help you do that, you turned to drugs and alcohol."

Lyons said they now have programs and services for young men and women who are coming home and the situation has improved somewhat.

Deputy Commissioner of the Office of Veteran Services Robert Santiago said that stable housing for veterans can be a first step to staving off many problems associated with veterans' transition to civilian life. He said stable housing is a foundation many veterans use to build a life after opioid addiction, unemployment, mental illness or injuries.

Bernstein also pointed out that despite reducing the number of homeless veterans overall by 39 percent since the start of the Boston's Way Home program, homelessness among the general population has not shifted nearly as much, and mirroring the veteran program could be a way to stem homelessness in the general population.

"It has not gone down by anywhere near that amount, and so what that tells us is what we're doing around veterans and the influx of resources that we've had specifically to address veteran homelessness is working," she said.

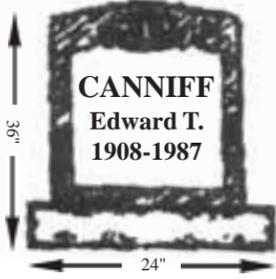


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<p>OPEN HOUSE SAT/SUN 12-1:30</p>  <p>80 DANNY ROAD HYDE PARK</p> <p>NEW LISTING! Welcome home! Located in the heart of this sought-after Readville neighborhood, close to transportation, shopping and highway access, this classic Colonial feels like home as soon as you enter. The first floor front-to-back living room opens into a 4-season porch with access to a back deck. Kitchen, dining room and 1/2 bath complete the first floor. The second floor has a good-sized master bedroom plus two more bedrooms and a full bath. Situated on a level lot with a deck that features a retractable awning for those sunny afternoons! \$450,000 DIANA BRADLEY 617-312-2432</p>	<p>OPEN HOUSE SAT 12-1:30 & SUN 1:30-3</p>  <p>36 WILLOW ST., PRE-CINCT 1, DEDHAM</p> <p>FIRST AD! Beautiful 3-story Victorian with lots of original detail, formal living room + formal dining room with gas fireplace and butler's pantry, 1st floor family room addition with gas fireplace, spacious + updated kitchen with cherry cabinetry and granite countertops, 3rd floor bedrooms plus office, 3rd floor offers two additional bedrooms, gas heat, 3 gas fireplaces. Lovely landscaped grounds featuring an enormous deck overlooks the inground pool and patio with Wysteria Pergola, this is a must see! Total of 11 rooms, 2.5 baths. Walk to the new Early Education Center Preschool, library, Dedham Square with fine restaurants and Community Theatre!! \$894,000 MARGIE VOGT 617-212-7660 PATSY BRENNAN 857-472-2982 ULTAN CONNOLLY 617-519-1699</p>	<p>ATTENTION CONTRACTORS!! 3 story two family with great space. Unit 1 has been renovated but needs some finishing touches. Offers open concept living with gas fireplace, AC and gas heat, custom kitchen with island, lovely spa-like bath, 2nd floor has two stories, nice layout, good space, needs work, 3rd floor attic offers 3 additional bedrooms and full bath. New porches on both units, separately deeded lot with 3 car garage parking...a must see. \$799,900 MARGIE VOGT 617-212-7660</p>
<p>NEW WEST ROXBURY RENTALS!</p>  <p>2 Fully Updated 6 Room, 2 Bedroom/2 Bath Apartments New kitchens, new baths, in-unit laundry and gas heat, bright & sunny, convenient location, short walk to commuter rail, shopping, and restaurants. \$2400 Call for details! LIANNE RICH 617-470-1937 2085 CENTRE STREET, UNITS 2 & 3, WEST ROXBURY</p>	 <p>One Westinghouse Plaza Unit 220, Hyde Park SOLD</p>  <p>15 Hillock Street Unit 2, Roslindale UNDER AGREEMENT</p>	 <p>40 Sherwood Street Unit 1, Roslindale UNDER AGREEMENT</p>  <p>41 Redgate Road West Roxbury UNDER AGREEMENT</p>

54th Regiment *continued from page 6*

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Thien Simpson was able to pull together. The talk features breakdowns of each soldier's uniform and armament, which included the rifles, muskets, swords and insignia used on the battlefield.

DePina talked more about modern history of African Americans in the U.S. Armed Forces, and how the 54th made it all possible. He served during the Korean War, and saw the Army integrate its forces over that time.

"I was there when it was segregated, and it was hell," he said. "I was there when it was integrated; beautiful! But there was a problem. The army was 80 percent European, and 20 percent African. How many guys do you think are in a company? If there were four or five, that was great. Usually it was around two or three. I was in one of the two or three companies. When the guys came in, they told me point blank range: 'I don't like you.' One year later they were loving me to death. I treated them fair and square, and that was the name of the game."

Corporal of the 54th, Steven Paschal explained that as a member of the organization, a re-enactor would choose a particular historical person to base their character. He based his character on Cpl. James Gooding, who died in Andersonville Prison during the war.

"So today I stand here representing Cpl. James Henry Gooding," he said. "He was a member of the 54th of Massachusetts and he petitioned President Lincoln about the unfair pay black soldiers were getting. Black soldiers were getting \$10 and white soldiers were getting \$13, but



Members of the 54th went through their armerment, most of which includes working firearms.

PHOTO BY JEFF SULLIVAN

they all agreed they would not accept any pay until they all got the same pay. One of the things members of the 54th liked to do was to live in the spirituality of the moment, and I found being a reenactor, that there's many ways to express the characteristics. There was a song the men working on the railroads would sing in about 1860, right before the Civil War, and every time I hear it it brings back the feeling of those men at that time."

Paschal then went into a skillfully-sung rendition of This Old Hammer, a song about John Henry and how he challenged a steam hammer on a railroad dig in West Virginia. Paschal sang the refrain, 'this old hammer killed John Henry, but it won't kill me. Lord, no, it won't kill me.'

Civilian member Bob Vance said he's grown up in Hyde Park and the fact that the 54th started out in Camp Meigs but was never in any of his history books troubled him, which is why he got involved.

"I mean they were training right there and I never knew about it," he said.

Vance also told the resi-

dents of the civilian side of procuring essentials for the army and his character's involvement in the regiment.

"This is a big part of history," he said. "I'm dressed as a settler, this is period piece clothing and basically I was the 'white guy' who would be their supply chain. They weren't necessarily welcome to the local merchants so I was the guy who would go into town and procure necessary items, and since they weren't accepting any pay, I wasn't really going to cheat them. I did my best to get a good deal for them. I'm a God-fearing man too."

Resident D'Anthony Clark II said he and his family were just coming in to return some books and saw something interesting happening in the auditorium.

"I guess the manager of the library jumped in front of us and said 'Hey, where are you going? Get in there! It's something really cool,'" he said. "You know, it's a free Saturday event. We figured why not check it out and it was really cool. I was really surprised to learn some unexpected history."

Clark said like many, he had very little prior knowledge of the regiment, mostly what he learned from school and what he's seen at the Downtown memorial.

"It was really great to learn more about something I knew very little bit about," he said. "A lot of history gets forgotten, and I think with the way technology is, there's a lot that falls through the cracks and, to have people be present and actually reenacting right in front of you, tangible history almost, I think that's amazing."

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Legals

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court - Probate and Family Court Department
SUFFOLK Division Docket No. SU19C0171CA

CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
617-788-8300

In the Matter of: Daniel Alexander Levine
A change of name has been filed by Daniel Alexander Levine of Allston, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:
Jan Alexandra Katz

IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Suffolk Probate and Family Court** before 10:00 a.m on the return day of 05/02/2019. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court
Date: April 10, 2019
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

Boston Bulletin, 04/25/19

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IN HOME APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE



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Shattuck Hospital *continued from page 1*

scheduled it to June 25.

On April 9, EOHHS issued its Shattuck Campus Planning Update—obtained by request from The Bulletin—that postponed the meeting and stated the reason:

“To better understand the interest of potential partners and the ability to deliver on the vision for the campus—to integrate permanent supportive housing into the broader campus plan from a service delivery and financing perspective, the Commonwealth is releasing Request For Information (RFI) from potential partners; this is an added component to the current planning process.”

EOHHS emphasized that the RFI is for information gathering only and is not a request for proposals.

According to EOHHS, the need for a RFI came about because it needed to better understand the feasibility of implementing the vision. The RFI would help EOHHS write the Request for Proposal for a private partner(s) to develop the site.

The nine-page RFI was released on April 18, a copy of which was received by The Bulletin.

At the January, 2019 community meeting, EOHHS showed a schematic plan of 11 to 18, three and five-story buildings around village greens that some called a small town. These would include 75-100 units of supportive housing and new buildings for five public health providers.

In a statement to The Bulletin on April 17, EOHHS said, “The RFI seeks to enlist the greater health care industry in the Massachusetts health care industry to help the Commonwealth establish a full vision for the future campus. The deed restriction on the property requires that the land be used for public health purposes, therefore the RFI will be targeted to entities that can meet and deliver the public health use.

“EOHHS established five planning principles that a potential partner would be required to follow; the Commonwealth through the RFI is looking to find candidates capable of achieving these goals:

- Integrate the Shattuck campus with Franklin Park.
- Increase green space
- Integrate health care within and across the health care system and increases housing supply to a minimum of 75 to 00 units of permanent supportive housing. Improve access to neighborhoods with public transportation.

• Sustainable development.”

The purpose of the RFI is for EOHHS to “determine the interest, potential partners and

types of services that would support the Commonwealth’s vision for the campus. EOHHS is seeking a self-sustaining partner.”

That partner would, among other things, - Be required to align with the objectives of the campus plan. -Commit to collaborate to serve the public health needs of the community and Commonwealth. The site must continue to be used for public health purposes. -Allow for the existing privately run services and programs to remain on the campus after the hospital relocates; the existing building will likely be demolished. -Explore develop new ideas. -Have the desire and resources for a long-term partnership. The deadline for response is May 17, 2019.

The RFI asks four questions and respondents can answer “any or all as you feel appropriate. Responding to this RFI is completely voluntary.”

1. The type of services that could be added to the campus.
2. Describe issues that would deter or encourage an organization from partnering with the Commonwealth.
3. Identify the steps the organization would need to partner with the Commonwealth
4. Describe what resources, including funding and financial models, are necessary to finance the design, permitting, leasing and construction of project and ongoing management of the site.

EOHHS will need approval from “the Asset Management Board to enter into a long term lease of the campus and conduct a competitive developer selection process.” That approval is scheduled for the fall of 2019.

The information gained from the RFI will presumably be part of the agenda for the third and final meeting on June 25, before the program and design recommendations are finalized in the late summer or early fall of 2019.

According to the RFI, the campus plan will be released in September, 2019 and the RFP for partners will be issued in January, 2020; the Shattuck hospital services are now scheduled to remove to the South End in “early 2022.”

Integration with Franklin Park has been a growing concern among Jamaica Plain residents. The RFI does not require a partner to collaborate or even communicate with the Boston Parks Department that has complete jurisdiction over the entrance drive to the hospital and the historic boundary landscape surrounding the campus.

Carolyn Royce, chair of the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council Housing Committee,

has taken the lead on this question. She is also a member of the Community Advisory Board assembled by EOHHS last year.

At the April 16 Housing Committee, one idea discussed was a 400 to 500-foot wide easement. This easement would go along through the edge of the hospital property that abuts Franklin Park and the Circuit Drive along the tennis courts. The ribbon of land would be a walkway connection from the Franklin Park entrance around the huge ledge called Rock Milton and down to Scarborough Pond.

In this way no legislation would be required to give land, but a legal agreement between the City and the Commonwealth transferring a specific section of land for a designated purpose would be, and would be part of the RFP for disposition of the campus to the partnership.

There was no consensus on this idea, but people felt that EOHHS should be given more solutions other than just “integrate with Franklin Park.”

In the past year of public meetings on the future of the Shattuck Hospital, city agencies, mainly the Parks Dept, DND and the BPDA, have been spectators. This will change.

As EOHHS told The Bulletin on April 17, “the partnership that develops the site will be subject to the BPDA’s Article 80 review process and that the Commonwealth—which owns the land—will not be part of that BPDA process.”

Legals

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department
Suffolk Division Docket No. SU16P1173PM

CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
617-788-8300

Estate of: Deborah Griffin
Also known as: Deborah J. Griffin

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by:
John P. Griffin of Roslindale, MA
requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, a determination of testacy and heirs at law and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00a.m. on the return day of 05/09/2019.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court
Date: April 10, 2019
Felix D Arroyo, Register of Probate

West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin, 04/25/19

OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 11:30-1

Here is your opportunity to own a spacious and versatile home. There are nine rooms, two and a half baths, a fireplace, front patio and back deck. There is lovely gumwood natural crown moldings. This home at the top of Bellevue Hill is wonderful for entertaining. The lower level has a suite and large sun-filled Florida room, ideal for an aging parent, adult child, nanny, home office or entertaining. In addition to the lower level suite, there is an unfinished walkup attic with high ceilings. \$799,900.



252 Stratford St., West Roxbury



Jan Crosby
Coldwell Banker Residential
Broker Associate
617-699-1668
jtc123@comcast.net





Community Meeting

Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee

Monday, May 6
6:00 PM - 7:45 PM

980 Harrison Ave
Boston Water and Sewer, 2nd Floor Training Room
Roxbury, MA 02119

Event Description

The Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee (RSMPOC) was developed to oversee projects that fall under the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan. Since the 2016 launch of PLAN: Dudley Square, RSMPOC meetings also include progress reports on that initiative. In addition to the above, on May 5th the City will be providing an update on coordinated efforts to advance economic empowerment in Dudley Square. RSMPOC meetings are held in the evening the first Monday of the month at the Boston Water & Sewer Commission (BWSC) in the 2nd Floor Training Room. Free parking is available in the BWSC parking lot. For more information about the RSMPOC and the public meeting, please visit our webpage at: bit.ly/theRSMPOC.

Please come join your neighbors and the City of Boston to help shape the future of the neighborhood!

Contact:
Muge Undemir
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor Boston, MA 02201
617.918.4488 | mugzy.undemir@boston.gov

bostonplans.org |  @bostonplans
Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

Calendar *continued from page 8*

locally and internationally. She is, also, an accomplished artist and very proud Mom of twins. After her performance we welcome others to share their works or read a favorite poem or two. **ADMISSION INFO:** <http://artistsatlargeinc.org/> Additional time info: all ages family friendly Dates and Time: April 25th, 6:00 pm at Boston Public Library, Hyde Park **LOCATION:** Boston Public Library, 35 Harvard Avenue, Hyde Park, MA 02136

ETHOS CONVERSATIONS ON AGING SERIES:

Senior Services Expo - Boston offers many benefits and services for our senior residents. Find out what they are! Join Ethos and the City of Boston Age Strong Commission for a Senior Services Expo. The event will be held on Wednesday, May 1, 2019 at the Blue Hills Collaborative, 20 Como Road, in Hyde Park. Stop in any time between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. and meet with city, state and private agencies as well as, human services organizations, to learn about their respective programs and services. Information for seniors from all neighborhoods will be available. Refreshments will be served. Call 617-477-6616 with questions. The event is offered at no charge and pre-registration is not required.

BCYF PROGRAMS SUMMER CAMP 2019

The BCYF Hyde Park Community Center is currently accepting applications for our summer camp. Our summer camp is for 7 – 12 year olds and runs from July 8th through August 16th. Hours are 8:30-am-

4:30pm with extended hours available. Stop by the community center to pick up your application!

The programs are being offered at the BCYF Hyde Park Community Center, 1179 River Street, Hyde Park, MA 02136. Call for more information 617-635-5178.

WEST ROXBURY / ROSLINDALE

BELLEVUE HILL IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION MEETING

Bellevue Hill, GBANA and West Roxbury Civic and Improvement Associations will co-host a community meeting on April 25 at St. John Chrisostom Parish hall, 4750 Washington St., 7 PM. Join BPD Area E-5, elected officials and special guests in a discussion about 361 Belgrade, MWRA and new development projects. All neighbors and neighborhoods are invited! See you on the 25th.

WARD 20 DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

Boston's Ward 20 Democratic Caucus will be Saturday, May 11th, at the Irish Social Club. 119 Park Street, West Roxbury. Doors for the caucus open at 8:30 AM, the caucus starts at 9:30 AM

The purpose for the caucus is to elect delegates to the Democratic State Convention on September 14th in Springfield

The caucus is open to all registered Democratic residing in Ward 20

ROSLINDALE GARDEN TOUR 2019

A tour of six private

Roslindale Gardens presented by Roslindale Green & Clean. Saturday June 22, 2019 at 11AM-4PM. Tickets \$15 before June 16, \$20 week of the event.

To purchase tickets or more information, visit www.roslindalegreenandclean.org

Tickets may also be purchased in person at the Roslindale Farmers' Market on June 8,15,22, and at Joanne Rossman-Purveyor of the unnecessary & the irresistible, 6 Birch St, Rosindale

Tour begins at Adams Park, Farmers' Market (Washington Street at Cummins Highway, Roslindale Village). The Garden Tour benefits the continued improvements to the public green space in Roslindale.

Current Sponsors:Golden Oak Sponsor: Linda Burnett, Realtor/Insight Realty Group, Copper Beech Sponsor: Christie Dustman & Company, Inc. For Information about becoming a Roslindale Garden Tour Sponsor and the benefits, please contact: Joan Linden, joanlinden@verizon.net

ROXBURY LATIN GIANT YARD SALE

Saturday, April 27, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Roxbury Latin Gymnasium

Treasures abound at R.L.'s Annual Giant Yard Sale! Purchase games and toys, furniture, jewelry, appliances, linens, books, home and holiday decor, sporting goods, computers and electronics, clothing and boutique items—and the best baked goods around! Entry is free and open to the public; Roxbury Latin boys will help you bring your purchases to your car.

ROSLINDALE HIGH SCHOOL REUNION

A reunion for all who attended Roslindale High School and the Class of 1969 takes place on Saturday, June 22 at the West Roxbury Elks Club, 1 Morrell Street from 7 to 11:30 p.m. Send a check for \$40. To Roslindale High School Reunion c/o Maria Bennett P.O. Box 365858 Hyde Park, MA 02136. Include an e-mail address and year of graduation. Updates can be found at roslindalehighschool.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Anna's Pals 2nd Annual Charity Golf Tournament is right around the corner. Monday June 24th at George Wright Golf Course. 8am Shotgun Start. Raffles ~ Closest to the Pin ~ Fun. Register now at www.annaspals.org/events

SPRING BENEFIT DINNER FOR ROSLINDALE DAY PARADE

The Roslindale Day Parade Committee will host our Annual Spring Benefit Dinner on Friday evening, May 3rd, 2019 from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at St. Nectarios Hall in Roslindale Village. This traditional annual event will feature a dinner courtesy of Delfino Restaurant, music with DJ Glenn Williams, performances, raffles, award presentations, and a silent auction, and a half hour show by ComedySportz Boston. Tickets to this event are \$30 each and may be purchased on-line at www.roslindaleparade.com, or through our mailing address at Roslindale Day Parade Committee, Inc., P.O. Box 324, Roslindale, MA 02131-0003.

The proceeds from our Annual Spring Benefit Dinner will go toward the bands, floats, and expenses for our 44th Annual Roslindale Day Parade on Sunday, October 6th, 2019. For more information about the dinner or the parade, call 617-327-4886 or e-mail to info@roslindaleparade.com.

TASTE OF WEST ROXBURY

Our 8th Annual Taste of West Roxbury will be on Thursday, May 16th 2019 from 6-9pm at the Irish Social Club.

Buy Tickets - \$30 each (Opens new window). Actually, why not buy a whole table! - \$240 for Table of 8 (Also opens a new window). Sign Up for Free Childcare at the Parkway YMCA (Available 6-9pm on May 16th; must show ticket or payment receipt).

Become a Sponsor (Download Sponsorship Form for additional information)

Meet your neighbors and local business owners for a night of delicious food from over 20 local restaurants as well as cocktails, raffles, music, and dancing. It's the event of the year!

Other great reasons to attend:
* Help WRMS build our community. Proceeds benefit our work in supporting small businesses and improving the economic vitality and physical appearance of the district.

* Free designated driver. Thanks to event sponsor, Lyft, you can get a free ride to or from the event. Have a great time and get home safely. Details in our next newsletter.

* Free Childcare! Make it a date night—drop the little ones off at the YMCA for their own pizza party during the event. Sign up here or at the YMCA (ticket receipt required).

Please reach out to us at director@wrms.org if you are interested in learning more about sponsorship opportunities or participating as a restaurant.

LOVE YOUR BLOCK - SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER

This year's Love Your Block spring cleanup in West Roxbury will be held on Friday, May 3rd, for corporate groups and Saturday, May 11th, for residents.

YMCA HEALTHY KIDS DAY

Healthy Kids Day is an annual event that inspires parents and kids to stay moving and learning all summer long. On April 27 the Parkway YMCA will celebrate Healthy Kids Day with fun and free activities that promote the health and well-being of children. 10:30am-1:30pm. Saturday, April 27th.

PARKWAY IN MOTION SCHOLARSHIPS - MAY 15 DEADLINE TO APPLY

Providing academic scholarships to students in the Parkway area has been a long-term goal of Parkway In Motion since their inception in 1998. Thanks to the generosity of the community, they have distributed \$70,000 in scholarships since 2014.

On March 30th, Parkway In Motion will award the 5th Annual Michael Kennedy Memorial Scholarship valued at \$5,000 for students in grade 6-8 and Parkway pride scholarships for K-5 grade students, valued at \$1,000 each. If you are interested in sponsoring a Parkway Pride scholarship for 2019-2029 academic year, please email info@parkwayinmotion.org.

In 2019, Parkway In Motion is introducing their Summer Enrichment Scholarship Program. This program provides financial resources to students entering grades 3-8 in the Parkway community so that they can participate in the summer enrichment learning experience of their choice. Students may apply for funding for camps in the areas of music, art, mathematics, dance, language, robotics, sports, science, and more. Learn more at www.parkwayinmotion.org/scholarships.



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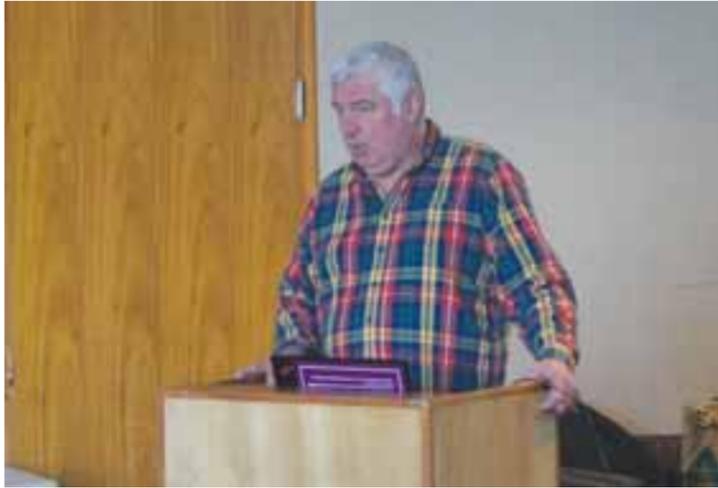
Beautiful clubhouse and function hall available for members

Winter Storage -140 slips
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For more information contact Dennis Cawley at dencaw@aol.com or leave a message at 781-269-4149.

Allston Civic Assn

continued from page 1



ACA President Anthony D'Isidoro

Other candidates who have officially thrown their hat into the ring include Jonathon Allen, Liz Breadon, Lee Nave and Amanda Smart. D'Isidoro said they also want to try to have a candidate's night for the At-Large candidates, which include at the time of publication challengers Domingos DaRosa, Michel Denis, Raymond Duran, Priscilla Flint-Banks, William King, David Halbert, Herb Lorenzo, Julia Mejia, Roy Owens, Jeffrey Ross, Alejandra St. Guillen, Taushawn Tinsley and Steven Wise. At-Large incumbents are Michelle Wu, Althea Garrison, Annissa Essaibi-George and Michael Flaherty.

ACA Member Chris Arena said his proposal to create a dedicated dog park in the Allston Brighton neighborhoods is coming along nicely. He said he is in discussions with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) for use of a parcel to the east of the Herter Park Amphitheater and west of an existing parking lot there.

"I'm a dog dad, and I love my dog and I'm advocating for people who have dogs and who don't have dogs," he said. "We want to find a place for them to go, and not poop in people's yards."

Arena said 180 people have signed his petition, which can be found at [Twitter.com/arenainallston](https://twitter.com/arenainallston), and he's going to have meetings with DCR, Ciommo, State Rep. Mike Moran and State Rep. Kevin Honan. He said he's also met with the Brighton Allston Improvement Association, the Charles River Conservancy, the Brighton Board of Trade, the Allston Board of Trade, both Main Streets organizations, and more.

Arena said the challenges facing them are those of funding and figuring out the exact dimensions of the park. He said currently parts of the area they're looking at are seasonally permitted for sports uses, and they have to figure where those permits allow those sports uses so they can work around them. He also said he wants to apply for the Harvard Public Realm Trust Fund grant, and he could use a little help.

"I have no experience writing grants and so I need someone who can help," he said, adding the grant application period ends on May 10.

Crash Line Productions representative Kristen Franks also gave an update on the Boston Calling Music Festival, set for May 24 to May 26. She said over the last few months they have been working extensively to improve public safety with the Boston Police Department (BPD), the Massachusetts State Police, the MBTA Police and the Transit Police.

"Each year we improve and learn from our mistakes," she said. "Last year, we had almost 40,000 people, but this year we're only expecting in the mid 20,000 range. We will still have the same police presence, but there will most likely be fewer people in the neighborhood."

Franks said they have worked with the MBTA to increase frequency on the Bus Route 66 and will have shuttles waiting on Western Avenue to pick up and drop off concert goers. She said Lyft will be the official ride share partner, and will have a dedicated pick up and drop off location at the Harvard Business School.

In terms of noise disruption, Franks said their sound engineer has worked to include more speakers at the location of the concert so that they have more control over sound spillover.

"I can't promise full silence, but at the same time we take every concern seriously and in real time," she said.

Franks discussed an issue from last year's concert that when the Killers were playing, several residents complained that the bass was spilling over into the neighborhood and asked that it be turned down. As soon as they saw the request, they did and Franks said neighbors were appreciated.

Library Flooding continued from page 1



According to officials, the flooding appears to be coming from this pipe.

PHOTO BY RICARDO GUILLAUME

Neighborhood Services, Pricilla Foley. Vieira sent those three what he described as "a really nasty note" where he wrote about having to move the Earth Day event at the last minute.

"We have had to relocate tonight's speaking program to Weld Hall due to the fact that Menino Hall in the lower level of the library has turned into a wading pool. We can't wait any longer," Vieira said in the email to BPL officials. "There must be an immediate remediation response to these conditions. This is beyond the point of just sitting around talking about it. If I

don't get an acceptable response I'll be talking about it at the BPL budget hearing. Count on it."

"The Boston Public Library has been working closely with outside contractors and the City of Boston Public Facilities Department on the analysis and remediation plan for water infiltration in the lower level of the Hyde Park Branch," a BPL official said in a statement. "The BPL submitted a draft scope of work and preliminary estimate for consideration in the COB FY20 capital budget. This project has been included in Mayor

Walsh's recommended budget and we expect that the funds to perform this work will be available in July."

For now the plan is to close Menino Hall to all programming until further notice. Vieira remained frustrated but hopeful that something will be done soon.

"You can't keep talking about a problem that's causing this kind of damage. You have to fix the damage and find a way to pay for it afterwards," Vieira said. "Because if you don't take care of it, it's only going to get worse and it's only going to get more expensive."

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Legals

NOTICE OF SELF STORAGE SALE

Please take notice Prime Storage – Hyde Park located at 1641 Hyde Park Ave., Hyde Park, MA 02136 intends to hold an auction to sell the goods stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storage-treasures.com on 5/8/2019 at 12:00 PM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Christina Emerson unit #1026; Rita M. Jones unit #1035; Melody Torres unit #1087; Marc Brindisi unit #1116; Michael McAdams units #2006 & #20863; Denise Perez Rivera unit #2045; Gene Del Rosario unit #2111; Cheryl Scott/U.S. Environmental Protection unit #11242. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.

Hyde Park Bulletin, 4/18/19, 4/25/19

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

DOCKET No.SU18P1173EA

Estate of: **Brian J. Foppiano**
Also Known As:
Date of Death: **09/01/2016**

Suffolk Division

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of
Petitioner: Frederick J. Foppiano of Hyde Park, MA
Frederick J. Foppiano of Hyde Park, MA

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Hyde Park Bulletin, 04/25/19

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

DOCKET No.SU19P0461EA

Estate of: **Robert P. Donovan, Jr**
Also Known As: **Robert Paul Donovan**
Date of Death: **January 17, 2019**

Suffolk Division

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of
Petitioner: Donald Chin of Charlestown, MA
a Will has been admitted to informal probate

Donald Chin of Charlestown, MA
has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Boston Bulletin, 04/25/19

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

DOCKET No.SU19P0327EA

Estate of: **Geraldine O'Brien**

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
617-788-8300

Date of Death: **01/07/2019**

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by:

Patricia A. Shagoury of Dover, NH and Stephen Joyce of Braintree, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that:

Patricia A. Shagoury of Dover, NH and Stephen Joyce of Braintree, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00a.m. on the return day of 05/15/2019. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.

Date: April 11, 2019

Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

Boston Bulletin, 04/25/19

Letters *continued from page 4*

at two of Boston's three exam schools. Boston Latin School, the one exception, became less diverse 20 years ago when the school district removed racial quotas before the courts could overturn the district's racial quotas as unconstitutional.

The most equitable way to achieve broader diversity at Boston Latin School is not to bring back quotas or move the goal posts for one tribe of students over another. Instead, Boston should look at ways to make admission fair and open to all, regardless of racial background or where students live. This could include replacing the current entrance exam with one that is fair to everyone who takes it, as school equity advocates have suggested.

Changing an admissions exam, however, will have little impact without marketing Boston's exam school opportunities more vigorously to families who do not apply, including African-American families who send their children out of Boston to suburban schools via Metco. Some 300 African-American students leave Boston for Metco every school year. Boston Latin School admits 400 students annually. If just a fraction of these students were to choose Boston Latin over suburban schools, enrollment at Boston Latin would shift in a meaningful way.

Carter Wilkie
Roslindale

AWASH IN FEAR OF INEVITABLE AND NECESSARY CHANGE

To the Editor:

Reading the Bulletin last week left me puzzling over why some people are so fearful of and resistant to the unavoidable and necessary changes occurring around us. It started with reading about the NIMBY resistance to needed housing in Jamaica Plain, proceeded to the Editor's confused swipes at the changes in people's transportation choices, and ended with reading Frank O'Brien's screed against the essential changes the community overwhelmingly wants to the exceedingly dangerous conditions on Centre Street.

I'll start with the latter; I'm the bicycle advocate "who doesn't live in the neighborhood" Frank took issue with. I was not aware that there was a restriction on advocating for safety based on residence; while I live in Roslindale I routinely shop in and pass through West Roxbury. I am like the many dozens who spoke at the meeting wanting drastic changes to the road. I was particularly struck by the comment from a mother with young children that she will not cross the street to patronize other businesses because of the danger. Centre Street merchants, who often complain about not enough foot traffic, should be alarmed by that. We

have pushed the City to place aggressive traffic calming measures in Rozzie Square and it has greatly benefited the business community.

The Editor's comment that "bike lanes are bad enough" reflects a profound ignorance of all the problems that have been created by a car centric culture. People who would like to walk or bicycle don't because of dangerous street designs like the high speed four lane highway that is Centre Street. We have traffic congestion because of bad road design (e.g., street lights create bunching) and the fear that results. A visit to the Netherlands, Denmark, Portland Oregon, Montreal or even Cambridge will show how these problems can be reduced and eliminated. Frank's complaint about Dr. Furth's evidence based point that other advanced countries prioritize pedestrian safety using scientific methods reflects his parochial and uninformed thinking.

Indeed, a major source of the resistance to all the new and proposed housing developments is fears about traffic congestion. The solution is to encourage people to use other means of getting around including supporting improved public transportation through a small increase in taxes that we can easily afford. We need this just as we need more housing for all the young and lower income people who need affordable places to live. It is a simple function of supply and demand - more housing will slow down the increases in price. In Roslindale we have worked closely with many of the developers to make certain their designs fit and do not promote more unnecessary driving along with encouraging the developers to make contributions to improving the community. It works.

Finally, if the Bulletin and Mr. O'Brien think that their perspectives have a chance of prevailing they should think again. Climate change is going to transform our lives as a result of the excess CO2 we are daily dumping into the atmosphere. Denser housing and promoting alternatives to driving (transportation accounts for 40% of CO2 emissions nationwide) are some of the ways we can protect the future for our children.

Alan Wright
Roslindale

SCHOOL CAN BE A REAL ASSET

To the Editor:

Welcoming Roxbury Prep to our neighborhood will add value to our community and benefit the city as a whole.

A well-designed school with publicly accessible space can become a civic asset for the entire neighborhood. It can foster public life in a corridor that is currently car-oriented. This school will offer much more value than

the current use of the site.

Additionally, transit-oriented development is critical if we, as a city, are serious about addressing climate change. Creating a more resilient neighborhood means building for a future that makes walking, biking and public transit the convenient choice. This school is a great example of building to this future as it's served by the commuter rail and multiple bus lines. Boston's high school students aren't provided yellow buses, so access to public transportation is critical as well as environmentally sustainable.

Finally, I believe in the importance of socioeconomic mixing and equity. Diversity and inclusion benefit the entire city. We need more mixed income, racially diverse schools and neighborhoods throughout Boston. This school will attract a diverse student body and staff to the West Roxbury/Roslindale neighborhood. This is something we should celebrate.

I have two elementary-school-aged children who, without this school, will not have any opportunity to attend a public high school in our neighborhood.

It is disappointing to see other neighbors put traffic woes over just about everything else. Cars don't build community, people do. We must build toward the future we want for our neighborhoods and I believe Roxbury Prep is a great example of that.

Bridget Marquis
Boston

LET'S MAINTAIN THIS POSITIVE TRAJECTORY

To the Editor:

Thanks so much to the Bulletin for your detailed coverage re: "Dismantling Education Inequity in Boston," the April 9 forum of the Boston Coalition for Education Equity, considering especially that your print deadline was the next morning! Also want to thank the Corey St. Temple Hillel B'nai Torah for offering their community room to welcome the large crowd of 80+ people.

It struck me that a common thread thru each of the three addressed topics began to emerge. A vicious cycle becomes clear as the District implements policies that decrease confidence in their schools, thus fostering an increased market for charter schools ... which then cause fewer dollars to be allocated to District schools. No wonder families begin to look elsewhere.

Boston is an improving district - and statistically one of the best - urban districts in the country. Let's support policies and administrators who will continue that positive trajectory.

Andrea Doremus
West Roxbury

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